

# Meeting Notes

April 28, 2014 9 am

Colusa Wastewater Treatment Plant Office  
Colusa, CA

## Evaluation of the MUN Beneficial Use in Surface Ag Dominated Water Bodies

### *Attendees:*

#### Local Landowners

Vincent Andreotti

Mike Andreotti

Mark Andreotti

#### City of Colusa

Jesse Cain

#### Central Valley Water Board

Anne Littlejohn

Cindy Au Yeung

### *Meeting Objectives:*

- Provide a brief update on the project
- Review hydrology and water management in the study area

### *Meeting Summary*

#### **1. Update**

- a. A brief update on the current MUN project was provided covering:
  - i. Overview of water body categorization process (Flow Chart 1)
  - ii. Schedule for the Basin Plan Amendment
- b. This initial MUN study will lead to a broader analysis of all the appropriate beneficial uses in the Central Valley's agriculturally dominated water bodies

#### **2. Hydrology and Water Management**

- a. After reviewing Flow Chart 1, meeting representatives confirmed that the New Ditch (2011) and the Unnamed Tributary were best characterized as C1 – Constructed Ag

drains and Powell Slough was a M1 – Modified Ag drain.

- b. Local landowners agreed that the Unnamed Tributary and Powell Slough water bodies were likely constructed and or modified in the 1930s.
- c. Landowners use pumps to pull water out of Powell Slough for rice field irrigation.
- d. Two pumps along the Colusa Basin Drain (2047) also are used to irrigate fields that drain to Powell Slough.
- e. Main source of water to Powell Slough, other than the Colusa Basin Drain, is irrigation drainage water from the Zoomalt Irrigation District. The local landowners do not have a water agreement with Zoomalt, so they are dependent on a variable amount of water supply from year to year.
- f. The channel that runs parallel with Highway 20 to Powell Slough may be blocked during the irrigation season to avoid the drainage water in Powell Slough from going into the Colusa Basin Drain.
- g. The Colusa Wildlife Refuge drains water into Powell Slough periodically – holding the water too long can cause botulism in the stagnant water which will affect the ducks.
- h. The Unnamed Tributary drains the urban/storm runoff from half the City of Colusa.
- i. There is an informal agreement between the City of Colusa and the local landowners for maintenance activities. There is no set schedule and it has been more than four years since the City of Colusa conducted any work on the Unnamed Tributary. Maintenance activities may include excavation or dredging. Local landowners did install some concrete lining to the banks of Powell Slough approximately 15 to 20 years ago.
- j. The landowners do not conduct any water quality monitoring.
- k. Representatives confirmed that no surface water in these case study water bodies is used for drinking water and there are no plans for such a use.

### **3. Next Steps**

- a. Central Valley Water Board will send a draft water body categorization report to meeting representatives for review and feedback.
- b. Central Valley Water Board will keep representatives updated on project schedule.